

Message Text

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SUBJECT: OECD COMMITTEE FOR SCIENTIFIC AND TECHNOLOGICAL
POLICY (CST): REPORT ON 6TH MEETING, MARCH 19-20,1974

1. SUMMARY: COLOMBO (ITALY) RE-ELECTED CHAIRMAN, ODGERS
(UK) ELECTED VICE-CHAIRMAN, REPLACING BOTTCHEER
(NETHERLANDS). WHITEHEAD (CANADA), ENGSTROM (SWEDEN),
CONTINUE AS VICE-CHAIRMEN. OSHIMA (JAPAN) INTRODUCED AS REPLACEMENT
FOR KING, (UK), DIRECTOR, SCIENTIFIC AFFAIRS. MAIN ITEMS:
(A) 1975 PROGRAM (DISCUSSION INCONCLUSIVE), (B) STATUS OF PROJECT
ON ENERGY R & D, (C) US PROPOSAL FOR MATERIALS PROGRAM (FAVORABLY
RECEIVED),(D) PLAN FOR JUNE REVIEW OF INFORMATION, COMPUTERS,
COMMUNICATIONS MANDATES AND ACTIVITIES. US REPRESENTED BY JOHN
GRANGER (SCI), HYLAN LYON (NSF/STPO). NEXT CST PLENARY, JUNE
12-13. EXTENDED BUREAU MEETING MAY 14, TO WHICH GRANGER INVITED
BY CHAIRMAN. END SUMMARY.

2. 1975 PROGRAM, SPT (74)5. PRELIMINARY DISCUSSION INCONCLUSIVE,
AS COMMITTEE UNABLE TO AGREE WHERE CURRENT ACTIVITIES SHOULD
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BE READJUSTED TO FREE RESOURCES FOR NEW PRIORITIES. KING ENTERED

PLEA FOR FLEXIBILITY, WHILE INSISTING ON "UNTOUCHABLE" NATURE CERTAIN "FIXED" PROGRAMS, E.G. R & D STATISTICS (13.9 PERCENT OF TOTAL 1973 SCIENCE BUDGET). HIS PROPOSAL TO CUT CUG/IPG COMBINED BUDGETS (19 PERCENT OF TOTAL IN 1973) BROUGHT NEGATIVE REACTIONS FROM SEVERAL COMMITTEE MEMBERS. GRANGER POINTED OUT THAT COUNTRIES MUST FACE BUDGETARY REDUCTIONS IN FAVORITE CURRENT ACTIVITIES IF COMMITTEE SERIOUSLY ENVISAGED PROJECTS IN NEW HIGH PRIORITY AREAS, E.G. ENERGY, MATERIALS. PROGRAM DISCUSSION WILL BE RESUMED IN JUNE. MISSION SUGGESTS CST MIGHT WELL FOLLOW EXAMPLE ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE (PER USOECD 6296, PARA 3) AND REQUEST STATUS REPORTS BY MARCH 1975 CST MEETING ON BASIS OF ALL CURRENT ACTIVITIES WHICH MIGHT BE EVALUATED FOR CONTINUATION, MODIFICATION OR PHASE-OUT. THIS WOULD FACILITATE REORIENTATION PROGRAM IN LIGHT RECOMMENDATIONS OF JUNE 1975 SCIENCE MINISTERIAL.

3. SURVEY OF ENERGY R & D. SECRETARIAT REPORTED ORALLY. REPLIES TO SURVEY QUESTIONNAIRE RECEIVED FROM ONLY SEVEN COUNTRIES. OTHERS EXPECTED IN TIME FOR MEETING OF COLOMBO GROUP ON ENERGY R AND D, MAY 9-10, WHEN SECRETARIAT WILL ALSO PRESENT INTERIM REPORT ON ESSENTIALS OF CST CONTRIBUTION TO OECDENERGY STUDY. GRANGER, WITH CONSIDERABLE SUPPORT, INSISTED ON NEED RAPIDLY TO IDENTIFY DECISIONS OF PERTINENCE TO SHORT AND LONG-TERM SITUATIONS. SECRETARIAT WILL PREPARE SHORT STATUS DOCUMENT FOR JUNE CST MEETING.

4. MATERIALS. SPT(74)7. HIGH INTEREST IN MATERIALS AREA. US OFFER TO PROVIDE BACKGROUND PAPER AND WORK PROPOSAL FOR JUNE MEETING ACCEPTED WITH ALACRITY. SECRETARIAT PAPER COMMENDED, AND CONSIDERABLE APPRECIATION EXPRESSED OF CONTRIBUTION TO OECD THINKING THIS AREA BY NATE PROMISEL, US NATIONAL ACADEMY OF SCIENCES.

5. INFORMATION, COMPUTERS, COMMUNICATIONS (ICC). (A) REVISION OF CUG MANDATE, SPT(74)6. COMMITTEE DECIDED THAT MANDATES AND PROGRAMS OF CUG AND IPG BE REVIEWED TOGETHER AT JUNE MEETING. MANY MEMBERS RECOGNIZED GROWING SIGNIFICANCE THIS TOTAL AREA, WITH IMPACT BEYOND CST PROGRAM, AND ACCEPTED POSSIBILITY FUTURE AMALGAMATION IPG/CUG WITH AUTONOMOUS COMMITTEE STATUS.

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PROBLEM FOR INTERIM, HOWEVER, IS COORDINATION OF TWO PROGRAMS, WITH IMPROVED INPUT TO CST AND OTHER OECD COMMITTEE PROJECTS, AS APPROPRIATE. (B) CONFERENCE ON COMPUTER/TELECOMMUNICATIONS POLICIES, SPT(74)9. CONFERENCE FORMALLY APPROVED AS DESCRIBED IN SPT(74)9 STEERING GROUP MET ON MAR 21 TO STRUCTURE CONFERENCE ACCORDING TO MEMBER-COUNTRY PROPOSALS FOR CHAIRMEN, KEY SPEAKERS, PANELISTS. STEERING GROUP WILL

MEET AGAIN MAY 21-22 OR JUNE 4-5 (SEE USOECD 7346).

6. OTHER ITEMS: (A) 1975 SCIENCE MINISTERIAL, SPT(74)4. SECRETARIAT PAPER GENERALLY APPROVED. MORE DETAILED STRUCTURE WILL BE PREPARED FOR JUNE CST MEETING, AFTER DISCUSSION BY EXTENDED BUREAU, MAY 15. PROPOSED DATES FOR CONFERENCE: JUNE 10-12 OR 17-19, 1975. (B) INTERNATIONAL SCIENTIFIC RELATIONS, SPT(73)15, ANNEXES I, II. GENERAL AGREEMENT TO PHASE OUT. (C) SYSTEMIC APPROACH TO R AND D RESOURCE ALLOCATION, SPT(74)1. RICHER (FRANCE) REPORTED ON MAR 13 MEETING OF AD HOC GROUP (BELGIUM, FRANCE, UK, US) HELD IN ACCORDANCE WITH CST INSTRUCTION (SEE SPT/M(73 12, PARA 12). CST ENDORSED AD HOC GROUP'S RECOMMENDATION THAT REPORT NOT BE PUBLISHED THIS STAGE, BUT BE MORE WIDELY DISTRIBUTED THROUGH NATIONAL DELEGATIONS FOR MEMBER-COUNTRY ANALYSIS AND EVALUATION PRIOR TO FURTHER ACTION. AD HOC GROUP TO MEET AGAIN AS APPROPRIATE BEFORE JUNE CST PLENARY TO DISCUSS MEMBER-COUNTRY RESPONSE. (D) RESEARCH SYSTEM. US-CANADA TASK GROUP MET SEPARATELY WITH SECRETARIAT TO DISCUSS AMENDMENTS AND REACHED TENTATIVE AGREEMENT ON TEXT. REPORT TO CST IN JUNE. (E) INNOVATION IN SERVICE SECTOR. DELETED.

7. NEXT MEETINGS, MAY 9-10 COLOMBO GROUP ON ENERGY R & D. MAY 15 CST EXTENDED BUREAU. MAY 21-22 OR JUNE 4-5 STEERING GROUP FOR COMPUTER/TELE-COMMUNICATIONS CONFERENCE. JUNE 12-13 CST PLENARY. BROWN

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